

**PARSONS AVENUE PUBLIC ART ELEMENT**  
**ARTIST STATEMENT**  
*A 1000 EYES*

Inspired by Elijah Pierce and the early Mound Builders from the area, *A 1000 Eyes* makes reference to the symbolism used in the carved work of artist Elijah Pierce and also the landscape of the early Mound Builders who settled in the area and built a 40 foot high mound near Bryden Road and Champion Avenue. The former mound at Bryden and Champion was unique since mounds were typically built along rivers and streams, while this mound was built away from the river in a part of Olde Towne East that was once a quiet first growth forest.

Imagining Parsons Avenue as a river or stream, hundreds of stainless steel rods will rise from the ground like reeds along a riverbank, glistening in gold, like the native reeds along Olentangy River. Each gold powder-coated stainless steel rod element is topped with an eye-like shape which contains either a stainless steel mirrored sphere, which will reflect the surroundings like the surface of water, or a geode crystal half which will bring a natural and unexpected organic texture to the work.

As pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers pass by the work throughout the day and night the artwork will gently glisten and visually change and move through the reflected light from the sun during the day and street lamps and automobile lights during the evening. A visual continuity will be created through the clustering and placement of the golden stainless steel rod elements throughout Parsons Avenue from Broad Street to Franklin Avenue. *A 1000 Eyes* also offers a flexibility in patterning and placement, which can accommodate any changes to the Parsons Avenue streetscape design plans and input of preferred placement by the community.